



APHIS

Plant Protection and Quarantine

# Pest Detection and Management Programs

Weekly Notice, September 15, 2003

---

This "Weekly Notice" is prepared by the Pest Detection and Management Programs (PDMP) to communicate recent important events. These notices and other more detailed program information can be found at:

## Domestic Programs

Asian Gypsy Moth – Funds have been transferred to the State Plant Quarantine Inspectorate (SPQI) of Russia under an FY 2003 Cooperative Agreement whereby SPQI provides trapping data that allows PPQ to determine high risk periods for Asian Gypsy Moth (AGM) in 7 far eastern ports, a list of all ships and the respective dates they called at those ports, and AGM-free certification of ships destined for USA ports. The collaboration with SPQI and a related Cooperative Agreement with the Russian Center for Forest Health provides APHIS with cost effective tools for mitigating the risk of AGM introduction into the USA. Steps are underway to renew the Agreements for FY 2004.

**Contact:** Weyman Fussell (301) 734-5705

[Weyman.Fussell@usda.gov](mailto:Weyman.Fussell@usda.gov)

## Emergency Programs

Incident Command System Training - Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) from various USDA agencies met in Riverdale this week to work with the Department's Office of Homeland Security to update ICS basic training modules 100 and 200. Real life scenarios, including some agency specific "plant-type" emergencies, will be incorporated into the web-based modules which will be used as early as this Fall for Department-wide training. Mr. George Nash, State Operational Support Officer from Austin, Texas represented PPQ at this workshop.

**Contact:** Gary Cunningham (301) 734-5778

[Gary.L.Cunningham@usda.gov](mailto:Gary.L.Cunningham@usda.gov)

Emerald Ash Borer –

Michigan: An entomologist and biological technician have been selected to provide onsite scientific support for the program. In addition the program is interviewing to establish an onsite public awareness position.

Delimiting survey and debris disposal activities continue.

Maryland: Two infested shipments totaling 121 ash trees were shipped from a landscape contractor in Oakland County, MI, directly to a nursery in Maryland. The shipments violated the Michigan state quarantine by moving regulated articles from a quarantined county. At this time it appears that these shipments were the only two that occurred from this firm. Maryland Department of Agriculture is accounting for the trees shipped to Maryland and destroying them. A few trees from the Maryland nursery were moved and planted on a property in Virginia. These trees are also being removed and destroyed.

Ohio: The Ohio Department of Agriculture continues to investigate the possible source of an EAB infested nursery in Defiance County, OH. The EAB program is preparing environmental documentation to consider possible control actions at this site.

**Contact:** Michael Stefan (301) 734-7338

[Michael.B.Stefan@usda.gov](mailto:Michael.B.Stefan@usda.gov)

Ralstonia - Reports summarizing PDMP's June 17-19, 2003 Ralstonia meetings was posted on the APHIS web site last week. The reports consist of a meeting summary, slides from selected presentations and notes from panel discussions. The first meeting, a Ralstonia program review, was a look back at the PPQ response to the winter 2002/2003 introduction of Ralstonia solanacearum race 3 biovar 2 into the United States on geraniums. The second meeting was planning meeting; current scientific and other information was gathered in preparation for developing an Action Plan should the bacterium be found in other crops or the general environment. A link to the meeting summaries can be found at the Ralstonia main page:

<http://www.aphis.usda.gov/ppq/ep/ralstonia/> or can be reached directly at:

<http://www.aphis.usda.gov/ppq/ep/ralstonia/review/>.

Similar reports will be mailed to mailing attendees this week.

**Contact:** Jim Writer (301) 734-7121

[James.V.Writer@usda.gov](mailto:James.V.Writer@usda.gov)



APHIS

Plant Protection and Quarantine

# **Pest Detection and Management Programs**

Weekly Notice, September 15, 2003

---